



BLACKSTONE

Worcester County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Blackstone is located approximately 40 miles southwest of the City of Boston, just north of the Rhode Island border. Situated in the historic Blackstone River Valley, the community reflects a natural beauty and a rustic landscape with classic New England characteristics. Residential and commercial development is well balanced through reasonable growth control regulations, providing for a pleasant environment for all residents. Fifty-three percent of the land is not developed, therefore providing considerable growth potential for commercial, industrial and residential expansion, while at the same time allowing a commitment to open space preservation.

When several residents were asked to describe Blackstone, three words recurred: "quaint, friendly and historical."

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southern Massachusetts, bordered by Mendon on the north; Bellingham on the east; North Smithfield and Woonsocket, Rhode Island, on the south; and Millville on the west. Blackstone is 22miles southeast of Worcester; 37 miles southwest of Boston; 15 miles north of Providence, Rhode Island; and 192 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 11.23 sq. miles

Land Area: 10.90 sq. miles

Population: 8,023

Density: 736 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(West Medway Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....70.8°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.6"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Blackstone, Franklin

Regional Planning Agency

Central Massachusetts

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 883-1500

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Administrator

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1845

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	4,175		
Democrats	1,740	41.7	%
Republicans	343	8.2	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	2,092	50.1	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Blackstone town, Worcester County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	8,804	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	8,804	100.0
Male.....	4,363	49.6	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	91	1.0
Female.....	4,441	50.4	Mexican.....	15	0.2
Under 5 years.....	557	6.3	Puerto Rican.....	43	0.5
5 to 9 years.....	692	7.9	Cuban.....	9	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	772	8.8	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	24	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	619	7.0	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	8,713	99.0
20 to 24 years.....	462	5.2	White alone.....	8,508	96.6
25 to 34 years.....	1,225	13.9	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	1,744	19.8	Total population.....	8,804	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,171	13.3	In households.....	8,772	99.6
55 to 59 years.....	352	4.0	Householder.....	3,235	36.7
60 to 64 years.....	320	3.6	Spouse.....	1,907	21.7
65 to 74 years.....	459	5.2	Child.....	2,954	33.6
75 to 84 years.....	341	3.9	Own child under 18 years.....	2,277	25.9
85 years and over.....	90	1.0	Other relatives.....	319	3.6
Median age (years).....	35.4	(X)	Under 18 years.....	119	1.4
18 years and over.....	6,361	72.3	Nonrelatives.....	357	4.1
Male.....	3,090	35.1	Unmarried partner.....	193	2.2
Female.....	3,271	37.2	In group quarters.....	32	0.4
21 years and over.....	6,064	68.9	Institutionalized population.....	25	0.3
62 years and over.....	1,048	11.9	Noninstitutionalized population.....	7	0.1
65 years and over.....	890	10.1	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	357	4.1	Total households.....	3,235	100.0
Female.....	533	6.1	Family households (families).....	2,355	72.8
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,236	38.2
One race.....	8,713	99.0	Married-couple family.....	1,907	58.9
White.....	8,574	97.4	With own children under 18 years.....	974	30.1
Black or African American.....	29	0.3	Female householder, no husband present.....	320	9.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	21	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	194	6.0
Asian.....	67	0.8	Nonfamily households.....	880	27.2
Asian Indian.....	9	0.1	Householder living alone.....	725	22.4
Chinese.....	4	-	Householder 65 years and over.....	274	8.5
Filipino.....	2	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,328	41.1
Japanese.....	5	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	651	20.1
Korean.....	13	0.1	Average household size.....	2.71	(X)
Vietnamese.....	4	-	Average family size.....	3.20	(X)
Other Asian ¹	30	0.3	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	3,331	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	3,235	97.1
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	96	2.9
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	1	-	occasional use.....	10	0.3
Some other race.....	21	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.3	(X)
Two or more races.....	91	1.0	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.9	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	3,235	100.0
White.....	8,661	98.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	2,264	70.0
Black or African American.....	36	0.4	Renter-occupied housing units.....	971	30.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	69	0.8	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.97	(X)
Asian.....	80	0.9	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.11	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	7	0.1			
Some other race.....	43	0.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 56

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Blackstone is located in the Blackstone River Valley, which played a major role in early American industrial development due to its natural resources and strategic location between Worcester and Providence. Situated between Interstates 90, 395, and 495, today the Blackstone Valley has good highway and rail access to the ports, airports, and intermodal facilities of Worcester, Providence, and Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 122 and 126.

Rail

The Providence & Worcester Railroad provides freight rail service to Blackstone. Contact number: (508) 755-4000 ext. 310

Bus

Blackstone is not affiliated with a regional transit authority.

Other

The Norfolk Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 2,700' asphalt runway with a copter approach.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Blackstone Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.